



PFOA Contamination Southern New Hampshire Weekly Update

July 1, 2016

NHDES is issuing these weekly email updates during our ongoing investigation into perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and other PFCs in southern New Hampshire drinking water. These updates will also be posted on our website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

Press Releases

June 30, 2016 - Groundwater Results from the Former Coakley Landfill Contain Elevated Concentrations of PFCs

CONCORD, NH - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) have received preliminary results for groundwater samples collected at the former Coakley Landfill in North Hampton and Greenland, New Hampshire. The results show elevated concentrations of perfluorochemicals (PFCs), including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS).

In response to a request from local officials and residents, the Coakley Landfill Group (a group of potentially responsible parties [PRPs]) collected and analyzed water samples from 8 monitoring wells at or adjacent to the landfill under the supervision of the U.S. EPA. These wells were previously installed to monitor the potential impact of the landfill on groundwater. The preliminary sampling results, which are still under third party review for quality assurance, showed that the groundwater samples contained combined PFOA and PFOS concentrations ranging from 71 parts per trillion (ppt) to 1108 ppt, with all wells sampled showing combined PFOA/PFOS concentrations above New Hampshire's Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard of 70 ppt.

To read the full text of the press release visit: <http://des.nh.gov/media/pr/2016/20160630-pfoa-coakleylandfill.htm>

June 28, 2016 - NHDES Southern N.H. PFOA Investigation Update - Designated Properties in Amherst to Be Provided Bottled Water

Concord, NH - The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced today that, as part of its investigation into perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), in southern New Hampshire drinking water, bottled water delivery will be temporarily expanded to include properties in Amherst served by private wells within a half-mile radius of 105 Route 101A, the former location of Textiles Coated International (TCI). NHDES made this decision to provide the bottled water to help protect the public's health based on the detection of some private drinking water wells within that area having concentrations greater than 70 parts per trillion (ppt) of PFOA and PFOS combined. Other wells have tested well below those concentrations. Repeat testing of wells within the area is being conducted to confirm results. Until the results are received and analyzed, people within the half-mile radius area will be provided bottled water as a precaution. No private drinking water wells outside the half-mile radius (near the Amherst investigation site) have tested near or above the 70 ppt standard.

To read the full text of the press release, please visit: <http://des.nh.gov/media/pr/2016/20160628-pfoa.htm>

Private Well Sampling

Beginning in early May, NHDES began using a second laboratory for PFC testing in parallel to increase our throughput capacity. Following receipt and review of the results from the second lab in early June we noticed an apparent trend where one lab appeared to be reporting consistently higher concentration levels than the other lab. To determine if there was a discrepancy we took split samples (two samples from the same well at the same time that are then sent to two different labs) to get direct comparison data. We have received the first split sample results and there is a difference in reported concentration levels. NHDES staff, along with laboratory experts from other state agencies are working to review the laboratory operating procedures from both of the laboratories, and we are examining their processes to determine why the differences exist and whether they are significant to our investigation. NHDES will report the findings of this work as soon as it is completed.

	SAINT-GOBAIN AREA	TCI AMHERST	FORMER MERRIMACK LANDFILL	FORMER LL&S LANDFILL	TCI MANCHESTER
WELLS SAMPLED	579	180	67	21	2
RESULTS RECEIVED	527	166	62	0	2
≥70	166	9	1	0	0
SCHEDULED	5	2	2	11	0

On May 31, 2016, NHDES established an Ambient Groundwater Quality Standard of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA, 70 ppt for PFOS and 70 ppt for PFOA and PFOS combined. To view the current maps for all of these locations, please visit: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm> and look under the subheading: Sampling Maps and Data.

New Items Added This week:

1. Results for Sensitive Receptor Soil Testing: Preliminary Results for Sensitive Receptor Soil Samples
Samples were collected from nine schools, daycare centers, and parks in Merrimack and Litchfield in May 2016. A total of 132 samples were collected and analyzed for perfluorochemicals (PFCs), including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). NHDES received preliminary results, which are still under third party review for quality assurance. The highest level of PFOA detected was 6 parts per billion (ppb). The highest level of PFOS detected was 59 ppb, although most of the results were less than 7 ppb. All results are less than NHDES' soil guidelines for PFOA and PFOS of 500 ppb. The soil guidelines were developed to be protective of a young child coming into direct contact with soil. To view the results, please visit <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm> and look for the section on Sensitive Receptor Soil Sampling
2. A copy of the powerpoint presentation given at the June 29, 2016 public information meeting is available here: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfoa-merrimack-publicmtg-20160629.pdf>

Public Water System Test Results

Beginning in early May, NHDES began using a second laboratory for PFC testing in parallel to increase our throughput capacity. Following receipt and review of the results from the second lab in early June we noticed an apparent trend where one lab appeared to be reporting consistently higher concentration levels than the other lab. To determine if there was a discrepancy we took split samples (two samples from the same well at

the same time that are then sent to two different labs) to get direct comparison data. We have received the first split sample results and there is a difference in reported concentration levels. NHDES staff, along with laboratory experts from other state agencies are working to review the laboratory operating procedures from both of the laboratories, and we are examining their processes to determine why the differences exist and whether they are significant to our investigation. NHDES will report the findings of this work as soon as it is completed.

Updated results are available here (note results include both PFOA and PFOS):

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfoa-public-water-results-20160701.pdf>

*Note this week's public water test results chart has added results from public water systems from around the state that have shared their results with NHDES.

Bottled Water Delivery/Availability

If you are eligible and have not received delivery of bottled water or have questions about receiving bottled water, please contact Andy Fulton, NHDES at (603) 271-7376 (for Bottled Water Inquiries Only).

Upcoming Public Meetings

Public Hearings on the Rulemaking:

- Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Campbell High School Auditorium;
1 Highlander Court, Litchfield, NH;
- Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at 6:00 PM at Conference Room A; NHDES Portsmouth Regional Office;
Pease International Tradeport; 222 International Drive, Suite 175; Portsmouth, NH;

Deadline for filing written comments: Friday, August 19, 2016 (4:00 PM) or contact: John Regan

(John.Regan@des.nh.gov), Hazardous Waste Remediation Bureau Administrator

Public Inquiries

If you have questions regarding the NHDES investigation into PFOA found in Southern NH drinking water, please call the Public Inquiry Line at (603) 271-9461 or visit <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfoa.htm>

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